



**State of Tennessee
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Tennessee State Library and Archives**

**UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE CENTER FOR THE
HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY**

**TENNESSEE PHYSICIANS INDEX,
ca. 1790-ca. 1994**

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator:

Bruesch, S. R. (Simon Rulin), 1914-1994

Inclusive Dates:

ca. 1790-ca. 1994

Scope & Content:

This card index of all known physicians in Tennessee from the late 18th century through the late 20th century was the project of Dr. S.R. (Simon Rulin) Bruesch of the University of Tennessee Center for the Health Sciences. Dr. Bruesch compiled as much information as possible on anyone who had claimed to have practiced medicine in Tennessee, using various sources, including original records. Many entries span more than one card and some cards also have information on the reverse side. Most entries are typed, although some handwritten information is included. The original card index is held and maintained by the University of Tennessee Center for the Health Sciences Library's Historical Collections in Memphis, Tennessee.

Physical Description/Extent:

ca. 17,000 cards ; 4" x 6"

Accession/Record Group Number:

Mf. 2006

Language:

English

Permanent Location:

Microfilm Only - Mf. 2006

Repository:

Tennessee State Library and Archives, 403 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee, 37243-0312

Administrative/Biographical History

Dr. S.R. (Simon Rulin) Bruesch was born July 7, 1914 in Norman, Oklahoma. He received his A.B. degree in 1935 from LaVerne College in LaVerne, California. Later, his college would award him its Alumnus of the Year in 1967 and an honorary D.Sc. degree in 1968. His interest in medicine began to develop during his junior year in college with a required biology course. The main stimulus arose from his strong, positive impressions derived from a textbook on embryology, written by Leslie Arey of Northwestern University. He vowed to study under Arey and applied only to Northwestern Medical School.

It was in the Spring of his second year that Simon Bruesch approached Dr. Arey with a request to do graduate work. By the mechanism of a combined medical/basic science educational program, he was able to earn an M.D. in 1941. He served a mixed internship (1940-41) at the Passavant Memorial Hospital in Chicago.

When Dr. Bruesch joined the U.T. College of Medicine faculty in September of 1941, there was already a beginning manpower shortage due to the possibility of war, and these shortages became greater with the wartime years. Thus, he had patient care duties to keep him busy, as well as his teaching responsibilities. His belief remains very strong that the University faculty have not only the responsibility to strive for excellence in teaching, but also to strive for excellence in scholarship. In addition to his own outstanding credentials as a nationally recognized anatomist, Dr. Bruesch is the authority on medical history in Memphis, in Tennessee, and in the South. His own excellent library is a treasure house of historical information on the healing arts' professions. He wrote 13 of the 45 chapters in the History of Medicine in Memphis.

Simon Bruesch was the major historical source and advisor for the Health Sciences Museum Foundation of the Memphis and Shelby County Medical Society Auxiliary in its commendable effort in establishing the Health Sciences Exhibit at the Memphis Pink Palace Museum. He also wrote the Foreword for

their publication regarding this exhibit, *From Saddlebags to Science: A Century of Health Care in Memphis 1830-1930*.

His honors at U.T. Memphis include: the first Goodman Professor at U.T. in 1961; the Golden Apple Award, given him by the U.T. Chapter of the Student Medical Association in 1968-1969; establishment of the S.R. Bruesch Library Endowment Fund — a gift by the 1967 U.T. College of Medicine Graduating Class; the University of Tennessee Alumni Outstanding Teacher Award in 1975; and the Faculty Recognition Award in the Basic Sciences, according him by the Graduating Medical Class of June, 1976, December, 1976, and June 1979. He has authored 37 papers, dealing with both scientific and historical subjects.

Dr. Bruesch died on April 27, 1994.

-Excerpted from the collection finding aid for the Simon Rulin Bruesch Collection, Historical Collections, University of Tennessee Center for the Health Sciences Library.

Organization/Arrangement of Materials

Alphabetical by surname of physician

Conditions of Access and Use

Restrictions on Access:

None

Restrictions on Use and Reproduction:

Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. Permission to publish material from the collection must be requested from the University of Tennessee Center for the Health Sciences Library, Historical Collections.

Index Terms

Personal Names:

Bruesch, S. R. (Simon Rulin), 1914-1994

Corporate Names/Organizations/Government Bodies:

University of Tennessee Center for the Health Sciences

Subjects:

Physicians -- Tennessee -- Biography -- Indexes

Geographic Names:

Tennessee -- History -- Sources

Acquisition and Appraisal**Provenance and Acquisition:**

Loaned for microfilming by the University of Tennessee Center for the Health Sciences Library and Biocommunications Center, Dec. 14, 2011

Processing and Administrative Information**Preferred Citation:**

[Identification of item], in the University of Tennessee Center for the Health Sciences Tennessee Physicians Index, Microfilm #2006, Tennessee State Library & Archives

Processing Information:

Prepared for microfilming by Cathi Carmack, Archival Technical Services, Dec. 2011. Some overlap in alphabetical order between boxes was revised prior to filming. The index was returned to its holding institution after filming was completed.

Existence and Location of Originals:

Original index cards located in the Historical Collections, Library and Biocommunications Center of the University of Tennessee Center for the Health Sciences in Memphis, Tennessee.

Related Archival Materials:

Additional historical material relating to physicians in Tennessee may be found in the Simon Rulin Bruesch Collection, Health Sciences Historical Collections, Health Sciences Library and Biocommunications Center, Memphis, Tennessee. Collection guide located online at:
<http://library.uthsc.edu/history/collections/#bruesch>

Electronic Location and Access:

<http://www.tn.gov/tsla/history/manuscripts/findingaids/mf2006.pdf>

CONTAINER LIST

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